

CLASSIFICATION <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>		25X1
Czechoslovakia		
COUNTRY	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Military Installations in and near Ostrava</u>		
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT	639766	25X1
DATE OBTAINED	16 August 1954	
REFERENCES	2	
PAGES	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED	
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1. Prior to January 1954, a Czech AAA unit was seen in the barracks installation near Hranecnik (P 50/O 58), southeast of Ostrava (P 50/O 59). Eight to 10 AA guns of about 80 mm caliber on four-wheel chassis were seen in the installation. The guns had muzzle brakes. In December 1953, two guns of the same type, which were towed by large trucks, were seen in Ostrava. When the guns were being moved, the gun barrels were in a horizontal position. Soldiers on the trucks wore khaki uniforms with red collar patches. No other units with guns were observed in or near Ostrava between September 1952 and March 1954. 1
2. In May or June 1953, 5 or 6 AA guns in improved emplacements at the site of the former Bedrich (Friedrich) mine, which was out of operation, participated in a gun salute. The semi-underground emplacements, which had been used during World War II, were located on a hill just southeast of the former Bedrich mine. The mine was located about 100 meters south of the single-track factory railway from Vitkovice (P 50/O 58) to Svinov (P 50/O 48) and 2 km east of the Sviniv-Vitkovice railroad station. The emplacement was surrounded by barbed-wire fences. The guns which were believed to have a caliber of about 80 mm were almost invisible from 50 meters away. 1
3. Prior to February 1954, engineer and signal soldiers were also observed in Ostrava. 2 No border guard troops were stationed there prior to March 1954. A guard unit of at least 100 men was stationed in the former Pravyda Castle in Kuncice (P 50/O 58) prior to the spring of 1954. The soldiers wore crimson service color, gear wheel and sword insignia on their collar patches, and on their caps, a Soviet Star emblem. 3 No new barracks

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

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- 2 -

buildings were seen in the post area prior to March 1954.

4. The post komendatura was located in the former Adria Hotel at the intersection of Pohranicni Street and I. Maja Street. The district komendatura (KVV) and the Higher Military Court were quartered in the former Don Bosko monastery. The Lower Military Court was located in the former Arbeitsamt (labor office) building at the intersection of Dimitrovova (formerly Bahnhofstrasse) and Kochanova Street.
5. Prior to March 1954, four galleries with concrete doors were seen at the steep embankment on the road to Muglinov (P 50/O 59), about 100 meters south of the concrete foot bridge across the Ostravice River in the north section of the town. [redacted]
the galleries were to serve as air raid shelters and that one of the bunkers had been used during World War II. 4

1. [redacted] Comment. The occupation of the installation by an AAA unit is confirmed. The guns cannot definitely be identified. Since other sources have also reported muzzle brakes, these may have been Soviet 85-mm guns. According to other sources, a cantonment was located 1,300 meters south-southwest of the airfield and a motorized artillery unit, probably a motorized AAA unit, was stationed in the former glass factory near a high school at a bridge across the Ostravice River in the spring of 1953. [redacted]

The units are believed to belong to an AAA Division which is assumed to be stationed in the Ostrava area.

2. [redacted] Comment. These soldiers may have been stationed in the barracks installation near Koblov, immediately north of Ostrava, where the signal and engineer battalions of the 7th Inf Div are assumed to be stationed.
3. [redacted] Comment. A political officer school of the VS (Interior Guard) is located there. [redacted]
4. [redacted] Comment. The installations are known. [redacted]

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